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22 August 2005

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ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT – SOUTHERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY WATER QUALITY COALITION- KERN RIVER SUB-WATERSHED

On 1 April 2005, we received the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) for the Southern San Joaquin Valley Water Quality Coalition's (SSJVWQC) Kern River Sub-watershed. This report was submitted by the SSJVWQC to meet the conditions of Resolution No. R5-2003-0105, and the associated Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands (Conditional Waiver).

Water Board staff has reviewed the AMR to evaluate if the document accurately reflects the required reporting conditions detailed in the Conditional Waiver, the conditions set forth in the Kern River Sub-watershed's Monitoring and Reporting Program Plan (MRP Plan), the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP), and to assess the quality of the data generated and the conclusions and recommendations presented. Water Board staff finds that additional data/clarification is necessary to complete the AMR review.

By 21 October 2005, the Coalition needs to address the requested information listed in 1 – 8 below.

1. Provide a detailed map of the entire Sub-watershed that includes the established Sub-watershed boundary (Item 1 of attached staff review).
2. Provide monitoring site locations in Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates (Item 2)
3. Provide field data sheets from Fruit Growers Laboratories (Items 4 and 11).
4. Original laboratory data sheets from Aquatic Bioassay & Consulting Laboratories need to be provided for all water column and sediment testing (Items 6 and 12).
5. Provide a detailed land use map for the Sub-watershed (Item 8).
6. Provide additional information on pesticide use for inclusion in the AMR Section D (Item 9).
7. Provide gauging station data for Poso Creek and the dates when sampling events were attempted (Item 10).
8. Provide Aquatic Bioassay & Consulting Laboratories rational for acceptance of fathead minnow, Hyalella, and Ceriodaphnia bioassay results, for those events where statistical problems with the data were encountered (Item 12).

The AMR review identified additional areas of concern that, although not required to make the AMR complete, are necessary for the Conditional Waiver program. **By 21 October 2005**, you need to address the requested information listed in 9 -12 on the following page.

California Environmental Protection Agency

9. Submit a revised sampling program that includes additional monitoring points including a combination of secondary water bodies and return canals; to address the sampling of 20% of additional waterways per year as required by the Waiver program (Item 16).
10. Submit a storm-water sampling program that includes a sampling trigger, and provisions to document the results of said program (Item 10).
11. Provide assurance that Communication Reports and follow-up sampling will be preformed whenever statistically significant toxicity is detected, or Basin Plan water quality objectives are exceeded, as required by the Conditional Waiver program (Items 7 and 15).
12. Provide a list of Sub-watershed members so that we can evaluate the extent of coverage within the Sub-watershed in response to detected water-quality impacts. The revised Attachment B of Resolution No. 2003-0105 states, "The Coalition Group shall, by July 22, 2004, maintain a Membership Document with information concerning each Participant who has knowingly elected to be a member of the Coalition Group. The Membership Document shall include, at a minimum, a list of the Participants, information on contacting each Participant, and information sufficient to locate the fields or parcels of each Participant that are within the Coalition Group. The Regional Board may further specify the information to be included. This information shall be provided to the Regional Board upon request, within the time specified by the Regional Board, which time shall not exceed thirty days."

Items that need to be incorporated into the current monitoring program and/or generated for the next AMR submittal include:

- A) Complete chain of custody documentation (Item 5 of attached staff review);
- B) Perform the required TIE analysis, re-sampling, sampling upstream, and preparation of a Communication Report when toxicity exceeds 50% mortality (Item 12);
- C) Collect and analyze toxicity QA/QC samples on the required 5% frequency (Item 17);
- D) Continued work on management practices issues (Item 18).

If you have any questions or comments regarding the review, or need any further information, please contact Alan Cregan at (559) 445-6185.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

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ARC:arc

cc: Mr. Tom Pinkos, Regional Water Quality Control Board, Rancho Cordova
Mr. Bill Croyle, Regional Water Quality Control Board, Rancho Cordova
Mr. Ken landau, Regional Water Quality Control Board, Rancho Cordova
Mr. Dennis Westcot, Regional Water Quality Control Board, Rancho Cordova